

Internal Machines Are Being Used To Check Our Soldiers

AMERICAN PATROLS FIND FOES ARE
PLANTING BOMBS WITH HARMLESS
LOOKING WIRES ATTACHED
IN NO MAN'S REGION.

With the American Army in France, May 17.—(By the Associated Press)—The Germans opposite the American sector northwest of Toul are resorting to infernal machines in an effort to check the activity of American patrols, numbers of which go out every night to roam No Man's Land and even German land virtually at will.

A member of an American patrol stepped on a harmless looking wire near the German lines early yesterday and a bomb immediately exploded in the center of the patrol group. It had been planted by the enemy.

The members of the patrol either ignored or were misled into an abandoned trench nearby and the soldiers prepared for a fight, believing one was certain to come. They waited in the darkness for half an hour for something to happen, but the Germans did not come out. The party then made its way cautiously back to the American line.

CREEL SENDS AN APOLOGY FOR HIS INDISCREET TALK

Washington, May 17.—George Creel, chairman of the committee on Public Information, apologized to Congress today for his much discussed recent New York speech in which he was quoted as having said that as he disliked slumming he would not explore the hearts of congressmen.

"I admit the indiscretion and regret it deeply," Mr. Creel wrote to Chairman Poff of the Committee on Rules, considering resolutions on the incident. The remarks attributed to Creel created a furor in Congress with demands for investigation of his committee and declarations that if correctly quoted he was unfit to hold his office.

It was indicated yesterday by House leaders that the matter probably would be permitted to drop and Creel later a Poff probably assured such a disposition of the incident.

Chairman Poff told the committee today that he had been advised that the letter had been written and would be delivered today.

BRITISH GET TWELVE HOUR START ON HUNS

London, May 17.—The seven British submarines destroyed by their crews at Heligoland to prevent their being captured by the Germans reached the Baltic sea either through the straits between Denmark and Norway and Sweden or by way of Archangel, according to an admiralty statement. The class C boats went by way of Archangel while the class E boats took the other route.

An account of the destruction of seven British submarines in Heligoland was given to the Associated Press correspondent in a port where he met several of the members of the crews of the submarines and whom he travelled back to England on the steamer with them.

The British crews got out of Heligoland only 12 hours ahead of the German entrance to the town. The men assured the correspondent that they had effected the complete destruction of their boats before leaving.

The submarines, which had entered the Baltic at early periods in the war and had been in constant service since, were frozen solidly in the ice in Heligoland, which made their escape impossible.

For the purpose of destroying the submarines large quantities of explosives were placed inside them and exploded by cans of fuses. The series of explosions which followed shook the entire city of Heligoland and the crash of the detonations was heard for miles.

The property value of the craft and the material destroyed reached a total of about 500,000 pounds.

FIRE DESTROYS DANBURY SHOP

Danbury, May 17.—Fire caused by sparks from an over heated bearing did damage estimated at \$3,000 to the factory of the Mutual Fur Cutting Co. today.

HOOVER SELLS CAR TO SAVE

Washington, May 17.—Food Administrator Hoover practices what he preaches not only in food conservation but in other measures to help win the war.

Today he sold his large automobile, discharged his chauffeur and began operating a small car himself.

"I could not think of withholding a man from industry who should be building ships," said Mr. Hoover.

HELINGSFORS IS ENTERED BY GUARD

London, May 17.—Gen Mannerheim, commander of the Finnish White guard, entered Helingsfors on Thursday, at the head of 12,000 men, as Exchange Telegraph Co. dispatch from Copenhagen reports. Until that time the capital was occupied by German troops.

SPELLACY TURNS DOWN OFFER OF HARTFORD MAYOR

Decides His Position as United States Attorney Is Most Important Work.

MAKES SACRIFICE FOR PATRIOTISM

Offered Corporation Counselship at \$5,000 a Year But Declines Offer.

(Special to The Times.)

Hartford, May 17.—Universal commendation is heard here over the patriotic stand of United States Attorney Thomas J. Spellacy who has turned down the offer of Mayor Richard J. Kinsella to become corporation counsel of Hartford.

Mr. Spellacy as United States attorney for Connecticut receives but \$2,500 per year and the duties require all of his time. The corporation counselship of Hartford pays \$5,000 a year, and it would be possible for Mr. Spellacy to fill both positions as there is nothing in the law which could operate to stop him.

His view of the situation, however, is that this is no time for men holding public office who can be of service to the government to think of the profit there is in the job.

Below is a copy of the letter which Mr. Spellacy sent to Mayor Kinsella following the latter's offer of the position. Its perusal will show the reader that the author had an opportunity to serve in the National army as a commissioned officer but at the request of Attorney General Thomas W. Gregory stuck to his post.

The appended letter of Mr. Spellacy to Mayor Kinsella is self-explanatory: Honorable Richard J. Kinsella, Mayor of Hartford,

My Dear Mr. Kinsella: Replying to your favor of May 9, may I not express my grateful appreciation of the high compliment which you have paid me? Your proffer of the office of Corporation Counsel furnishes me an opportunity for public service, which in ordinary times I could not well decline. My personal preferences moreover, would incline me to accept, if for no other reason than the pleasure it would be to assist you in the administration of the city of Hartford.

It is therefore with a feeling of genuine regret that I am unable to accept. The time is too propitious for the consulting of private predilections. Our country is at war, and until the war is won, it is incumbent on us all to fill the niche wherein we best can serve our country.

While it is true there is no law or regulation that would preclude me from holding both the offices of Corporation Counsel and United States Attorney, I do not feel, in justice to the demands of my present position, that I should accept any appointment that would in any slight measure make inroads upon my time, the whole of which I now devote to the United States. I have practically abandoned my private law practice so that my Federal duties might receive my undivided attention. It was my personal desire to enter the service of the United States army. I applied for a commission in the Judge Advocate General's Officers' Reserve Corps and an appointment as major. I consulted with the Attorney-General in regard to accepting this appointment and under date of July 2, 1917, he wrote me as follows:

"The Department appreciates your patriotic impulse to enter the military service, and while it is not the purpose of the Department to interfere with anyone who desires to serve in the army, it feels that, under the circumstances, you could be of more service at this time as District Attorney than in the Judge Advocate General's Officers' Reserve Corps, and therefore expresses the desire for you to remain at your present post."

I have written to you in detail the reasons which actuate my decision. I have done so because I feel that you should be fully apprised of all the facts, so as not to misunderstand my motive. I fully appreciate your generous offer. I would like to accept the appointment. I am declining only because I feel it my imperative duty.

Cordially and sincerely yours, THOMAS J. SPELLACY.

FAMOUS ITALIAN AVIATOR KILLED

New York, May 17.—Capt. Antonio Silvio Resnati of the royal Italian flying corps, who piloted the 10 passenger Caproni biplane from Washington to New York and back again recently, was killed at noon today at the Hempstead flying field.

Resnati, one of the most famous Italian military aviators, met death while testing an American built Caproni plane of the bombing type, recently authorized for purchase by the United States government.

The following Connecticut boys appear on the latest list:

Wounded slightly—Leodore Durkin, 153 Beach street, Bridgeport; Friend W. Rosene, Shelton.

Severely wounded—Earnest Hickey, Hartford.

Died disease—John J. Corcoran, Branford.

Edward H. Wasmuth, of Huntington, Ind., was elected chairman of the Republican committee of Indiana.

BRIDGEPORT REPORTED ON WOUNDED LIST

Washington, May 17.—The casualty list today contained 106 names, divided as follows:

Killed in action, 15; died of wounds, 6; died of disease, 4; died of gas poisoning, 1; wounded severely, 12; wounded slightly, 60; missing in action, 8.

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AMERICAN ARMY HOLDING FRONT WITH BRITISH

Troops Recently "Over" Are Being Trained With Units of English Forces.

GREETED WITH OPEN ARMS BY THE TOMMIES

Officers and Men Express Highest Appreciation of Aptitude of Americans.

With the American Army in France, May 17.—(By the A. P.)—Troops of the new American army have arrived within the zone of the British forces in northern France and are now completing their training in the area occupied by the troops which are blocking the path of the Germans to the channel ports.

Their commander already has commanded American forces in trenches on the French front.

The British officers and men who are training the new force say the Americans are of the finest material and are certain to give a most excellent account of themselves when they meet the Germans.

The British troops greeted the Americans not only as comrades in arms, but as warm friends and the work of instruction is continued in that spirit.

The American forces on arriving within the British zone were cheered to the skies by the sons of Britain, many of whom bore unmistakable signs of battle. They had not seen the Americans before, but they knew they were coming.

The Americans on the other hand gained all the more enthusiasm by the heartiness of the greeting which they received from their battle scarred comrades in arms.

KILLIFER WILL BE SHIPPED TO CAMP FUNSTON

Battle Creek, Mich., May 17.—William Killifer, catcher for the Chicago Nationals and battery mate of Grover Cleveland Alexander, with whom he was purchased last winter from the Philadelphia Nationals at a cost said to be more than \$50,000, will be sent to Camp Funston instead of Camp Crozier, it was learned here today.

Alexander is now stationed at the Kansas cantonment. Killifer was originally given deferred classification by his local board in Paw Paw, Mich., but the government accepted the case with the result that the district board reversed the earlier classification.

Killifer was married last October.

SUBSTITUTES ARE TAKING PLACE OF CREAMERY BUTTER

On Saturday April 27th over eight hundred of the branches of the Dairy-men's league held meetings with a total attendance of above 80 per cent of the 53,000 members.

Of the many important resolutions which were discussed and adopted at the various meetings, the one which received the most attention was that of the substitution of butter for margarine in the home and in the army.

The discussion on this subject brought out the fact that one reason why butter is not used more among farmers is that many merchants urge on their customers the use of oleomargarine or other substitutes in the place of butter.

One of the great troubles of the present critical market situation is caused by the fact that butter is less in price than the low price is due to butter being displaced by oleomargarine. If this condition continues it means eventually that a large part of the dairy industry will be sacrificed, and of course, such a condition would react directly on all of the merchants in the villages in the dairy sections. There are many of the dairy sections that are not adapted to any other line of farming except that of producing milk and butter. It would therefore seem to be as much of a problem for the local merchants to do everything in their power to advertise and sell the products produced by local dairymen as it is for the dairymen themselves. There is also the health side of the problem to be considered for scientists have conclusively proven that a large consumption of dairy products is necessary to the growth and proper maintenance of human life.

RUN EXTRA TRAIN MEMORIAL DAY

An extra train to accommodate holiday travel will be operated between New York and New Haven on Memorial Day, Thursday, May 30, by the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad.

This train will leave New York, Grand Central Terminal, at 9:25 p. m.; Stamford, 10:30 p. m.; South Norwalk, 10:55 p. m.; Bridgeport, 11:05 p. m. and is due in New Haven at 11:25 p. m.

ORDNANCE BUREAU NEEDS OPERATORS

Positions for switchboard operators are now vacant in the Bridgeport Ordnance department. Male or female candidates for these positions may file applications in the office of the deputy customs collector, in the Bridgeport Post Office. The salary is \$300 a year.

MOST TERRIBLE ALTERNATIVE IS FACING GERMANY

Swiss Journalist Says Suggestion for Killing Off Old People Is Considered.

EITHER THAT OR FACE HUNGER PANGS

Glittering Hopes Dangled Before People Have Proved But Shadows.

"Will the Germans kill off their old people? In all seriousness the possibility is suggested here by a Swiss journalist who has just returned from a short visit to Germany."

Despite the glittering hopes dangled before them, Germans today see a great shadow over their country. That shadow is hunger.

They all know, from the Kaiser down to the Berlin washerwoman, that unless they can obtain a speedy peace it will be quite impossible for them to hold out for the coming harvest.

The situation will in all likelihood be so terrible that in July that not a few of the world's soberest thinkers believe that Germany will collapse internally before her army can be defeated in the field.

It is for this reason that neutrals who know Germany assert that the Germans with their readiness to sacrifice the world to Moloch, will not hesitate to get rid of all over-aged men and women whose age and infirmity prevent them from helping to carry on the war—who cannot work, but who must be fed.

SUCH AN ALTERNATIVE, revolting to anyone who is not a Hun, but there is every reason to think that it has been germinating some long time in the Hun mind.

It follows the axiom of a great German military leader who laid down as a first principle of warfare that not a single person, with the exception of children, was to be given food unless he or she was of direct service to the military machine.

The Germans are now faced with the grim fact that six million mouths at the very least have to be filled three times a day, without the army being in the least better off for the loss of the valuable food consumed.

The cold-blooded, calculating German, with his grim devotion to the war-machine, can never overcome his regret for the loss of these eighteen million meals a day.

It is for this reason that observers have hinted that there is nothing more likely than that Hun males and females over 70 will receive a polite intimation that early suicide will be helpful to all concerned, and that the hint will be emphasized by the cutting-off of rations.

The Germans were never noted for gentleness towards neighbors or kindly feelings, but this regularly increasing shortage of food, this incessant sapping away the vitality of a nation already exhausted on the battlefields of Europe, if continued is adding to the acerbity of public manners.

There is a general hardening of the Hun mind against the slightest vestige of sentimentality. For this reason there is little ground to believe that when the Kaiser gives the order for the aged to die for the sake of Germany, the younger people will see that the order is carried out, so that the rations of those remaining may be greater. (By the International News Bureau, Inc., Boston.)

U. S. AVIATORS BAG ANOTHER ENEMY PLANE

With the American Army in France, May 17.—American aviators in the section northwest of Toul brought down another German aeroplane this morning.

Full details of the action have not been received. It appears, however, that Lieut. Edwin Rickenbacher of Columbus, Ohio, answering an alarm shortly after daylight, encountered three enemy planes. He attacked them and shot one down three kilometres inside the enemy lines.

Lieut. Rickenbacher, formerly an automobile racer, was decorated with the French war cross on Wednesday. He assisted in bringing down a German aeroplane in enemy territory two weeks ago.

INVITED TO SEE FIRST LAUNCHING

Collector of Port James L. McGovern of this city has received an invitation to attend the ceremonies which will accompany the launching of the Emergency Fleet corporation's steamer "Hohokah" at the Groton Iron works at Groton, tomorrow.

The "Hohokah," a magnificent steel vessel, is the first boat to be completed in Connecticut, for the United States Shipping Board. She will soon be in shape to help carry Yankee soldiers across the ocean to fight the murderous Hun.

Fagan Non-Suited In Superior Court

Unable to prove that the automobile owned by Michael Claps of Greenwich was responsible for a collision with his vegetable wagon on the Post road in Port Chester last June Jacob Fagan of Greenwich lost his suit in the Superior court yesterday where he was claiming damages of \$3,000. Judge J. P. Kellogg allowed a motion for a non suit.

JOIN BRITISH ARMY

Four recruits, who were accepted for service in the Canadian army at the recruiting station in Fairfield avenue, left Bridgeport this morning for New Haven, where they will be enlisted. The men who left were: David Mroczek, 228 Hartford street; Michael Helton, 147 Howard avenue; Daniel Fagan, 300 John street, and James Brannan, of New York.

KATHELINE LUDINGTON, SUFFRAGIST TAKES EXCEPTION TO BRANDEGEE'S OPPOSITION TO WOMAN SUFFRAGE

May I ask space for a few words of comment on a recent speech of Senator Brandegee.

That Mr. Brandegee is opposed to woman suffrage as he is to practically all progressive legislation, has been well known to his constituents. Many have deplored his Bourbon tendencies, but there has been a certain respect for the outspoken frankness of his position. But the recent manner of his opposition to all liberal measures creates a situation which should not be ignored by Connecticut citizens. It would seem as if these four years of desperate war for justice, and especially now the thought of our own men, carrying our hopes and faith into the trenches, might sober even politicians into some realization of the gravity and dignity of the struggle, but the manner of Mr. Brandegee's speech is habitually either violent or flippant. The following quotations are a fair sample of the style of the man who, to a certain extent, carries Connecticut's good name in Washington.

"I have no partisanship in this war. They can take my property; they can take my life. They are taking the lives of the men who are fighting the army, and they can have my life. I have only one life to live, and I have only one death to die! and I know of no better cause in which to sacrifice my life than in standing against this German brute who is tramping over civilization. But, my God, I'm a free man! No word that I have said on this floor has any partisan tinge to it."

"You cannot win this war by talking about woman suffrage and prohibition. We won every war we were ever in without woman suffrage and prohibition. We won the War of 1776, and 1812, and the Mexican war, and the war of 1861, and the Spanish-American war, and there were no pink tea parties talking about putting pink chemises on the men and blue and black knickerbockers on the women. The women do not propose to go over in the trenches abroad and do the fighting. It is the men who will have to do that. Instead of bleating around here about their saving democracy by forcing their way into caucuses and conventions, they had better go home and knit bandages and pick lint and get ready to take care of their brothers and sons, and fathers, who are going to be shot to pieces in the trenches abroad."

Is the tone of this speech satisfactory to his constituents? Do we wish to be considered Connecticut's tone? Does he, for instance, represent Connecticut's manhood, in its attitude toward woman? Women as well as men are giving their all to secure victory? In Europe and England they are carrying on the work of the men in every line of industry. They are in the munition works and at the front in the caucuses, in the hospitals as Red Cross nurses and as ambulance drivers. American women can be counted on to do their part as the demand comes.

Senator Brandegee says with magnificence that the country can "take my life." He will probably not be called upon to lay it down—but women are laying theirs down daily in the dangers of the "front" and the labors of the second line of defense; they are in the front and knit (1) bandages and pick lint."

Connecticut moves slowly, but it has a noble past and its record in this war has been more than creditable. Will it rest contented to have the country take our senior Senator as representing Connecticut's attitude toward women? The Republican party has been a good friend to Suffrage and has given it a very large majority in Congress—Mr. Brandegee does not even represent his party.

KATHELINE LUDINGTON, President, Connecticut Woman Suffrage Association.

400,000 FEEBLE MINDED PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES DECLARES CHARITIES ASSOCIATION SECRETARY

Kansas City, Mo., May 17.—"Feeble-mindedness is sapping vital forces of the nation and is a very real danger to democracy," George A. Hastings, Executive Secretary of the Mental Hygiene Committee of the State Charities Aid Association of New York, asserted in an address before the National Conference of Social Work here today. As a cure for the evil the speaker advocated community control through identification, registration, instruction, supervision and segregation.

"A complete census of the feeble-minded in this country has never been taken, but it is estimated that there is one feeble-minded person to every 250 of the population, or approximately 400,000 in all," Mr. Hastings said.

"About 12,000 men have been rejected from the new National Army on account of nervous and mental disorders; and one-third of these were rejected on account of feeble-mindedness."

"The community must awaken to the importance of controlling feeble-mindedness, and the increasing burden of crime, inefficiency, disease, immorality and poverty resulting from it will stagger coming generations. The effect of the prevalence of feeble-mindedness on the effective man-power of the nation, in the light of the National Army figures, can scarcely be called negligible."

"It is becoming more and more evident that the proper place to discover the feeble-minded is in the schools. Here their condition can be diagnosed and instruction suited to their capabilities provided, or, if they are to require supervision or segregation for life, this can be obtained before they have gone out into the community and come in conflict with the law and society and become criminal, immoral, diseased or paupers."

"New York state alone has an estimated feeble-minded population of about 35,000."

"A practical working program for the various states which would take them a long way on the road to a solution includes:

"Awakened public knowledge and conscience through making the facts about feeble-mindedness more generally known."

"Placing squarely on each state its responsibility for dealing with the problem."

"A central registration of all feeble-minded in the community."

"Establishment of institutions and schools for segregation and training."

"Facilities in connection with courts to determine mental condition of prisoners before sentence."

"Establishment of more upgraded classes in public schools to provide training adapted to the capacity of backward and defective children."

"A system of community supervision for the feeble-minded who can safely be left in the community after being properly trained."

CONNECTICUT MEN SERVING IN BIG TANKS

Forty-eight Connecticut men have enlisted in the Tank Corps of the United States Army through the office of Leo A. Korper who is Federal Director for Connecticut. In addition there are now on hand the applications of between twenty and thirty more for the Tank Corps, a large percentage of whom will doubtless be accepted.

Men of draft age are eligible. As present this is the only service in the army which is recruiting men classified under the draft.

The notice given out in connection with the offering of this opportunity to enter the Tank Corps says: "Men are wanted with force, stamina, and initiative who have the physique and strength to stand up under severe active service such as is required in manning the tanks. It is especially desired that men with knowledge of mechanics should apply. The tanks, both in offense and defense, have come to be a most important factor in determining the outcome of the world war."

Lieutenant T. W. Crosby of the Tank Corps will be at Room 25, State Capitol, Hartford, on Saturday, May 17 and 18, to interview men who wish to apply for enlistment or induction into the Tank Corps. Those who wish to see Lieutenant Crosby at that time should make an appointment beforehand by telephoning Hartford, Bushnell 30.

PREDICTS FIFTH WINTER OF WAR

Berne, Switzerland, May 17.—In a speech before the Wuertemberg diet Herr Hausmann, one of the leaders of the Progressive party, said that a fifth winter of war was now inevitable.

Germans must make up their minds to face disappointment, he said, instead of obtaining the victory hoped for during the summer.

The position of women, the whole range of their interests, is being more profoundly affected by this war than any event since the industrial revolution of the 18th and early 19th centuries. The momentous decisions being made daily by governments are radically altering the world in which their children are to live. England and Canada have realized this and have given the women the same right of self-determination that they have promised to the down trodden nations of Europe. France and Italy are well on the way toward emancipating their women. The overwhelming trend of public opinion, the outspoken statements of statesmen and of leaders such as Roosevelt, William Hays of the Republican National Committee and Vance McCormick of the Democratic National Committee and countless others, is all in this direction; but Senator Brandegee still asks of women "beating around about saving democracy" forcing their way into caucuses and conventions nominate the men who hold women's interests in their hands and yet we are to have nothing to do with the proceedings. The successful conduct of the war, the welfare of our families at the front, is in their hands, but we are to keep quiet and pick lint.

Next fall the elections will turn on the supreme issue on loyalty, but Connecticut women along with the women of other non-suffrage states are to leave the choice of the new Senators, members of Congress, Governors, etc., entirely to the men left at home by the war. We are sending hundreds of thousands of loyal voters out of the country, and it looks over in New York, and it looks automatically disfranchised the women left at home are all the unfit, the slackers, and the dangerously large number of alien enemies, who are still voters, (seven states give the vote to foreigners on their first papers and before they are eligible to the draft). The New York State anti-suffragists have recognized the powerlessness of the old "indirect influence of women" and in their recent statement have announced that they will quite rightly use their votes to fight sedition and pro-Germanism. But Mr. Brandegee would tell them to "go home and pick lint!"

Connecticut moves slowly, but it has a noble past and its record in this war has been more than creditable. Will it rest contented to have the country take our senior Senator as representing Connecticut's attitude toward women? The Republican party has been a good friend to Suffrage and has given it a very large majority in Congress—Mr. Brandegee does not even represent his party.

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